

Lovell United Church of Christ

1174 Main St., Lovell, Maine



September 2023

The Circuit Rider

PO Box 232 Lovell, ME 04051 www.lovellucc.org Office:925-1321 email:info@lovellucc.org



No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here...

Dear friends,

As I write this (August) the sun is shining and there is a very pleasant breeze blowing through the church office window. The last two days, however, brought us 5+ inches of precipitation in our rain gauges. The Saco River is up (again!) along with the little seasonal brook that runs near our house. Noah, it would seem, had nothing on our "summer of 2023!" By the way, I think Noah might be the craziest of Biblical figures, hearing God, building an ark, gathering animals... The whole thing sounds *delug-ional*. (I'm sorry couldn't help myself! Ask my grandchildren about my jokes!)

I'm looking forward to September and the change it will bring in the weather. But then I was looking forward to July thinking we would leave rainy June behind. And then came August, and surely, I thought Mother Nature would give us a break in summer's most esteemed month!

I know, I am the eternal optimist!

I don't know if this is because of my faith or my nature. My faith informs me that while there may be situations in which some people may have lost hope but with God there are no hopeless situations. At the bedrock of our faith is the resurrection. God was able to take the worst that humankind could do to one of their own and redeem it in the resurrection, took hate and offered redeeming love.

It was the Apostle Paul writing to the believers in Rome who said, *"...we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us."*

Not that I am comparing our rainy summer to the trials of the first century believers but if we are people of hope this should serve us on all levels of our human experience.

It was also the author of Hebrews who wrote: *"Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."*

So, we'll see. September is now upon us (as you read this Circuit Rider). Maybe fall will be beautiful. Either way I will remain hopeful for the weather but also for each of you.

May your fall be filled with blessings, if not sunny days!

Yours in eternal hope,

Pastor Neil

You can watch a replay of our Sunday Sermons on our website. www.lovellucc.org.
Just click on the Sunday Sermons tab.

Ladies Circle

The Kitchen Clean-Up volunteer for August is Lois Brown and Donna Fowlie is scheduled for September. Quilt raffle tickets are now available in the Church Vestry with drawing on August 27. Don't miss your chance to win a beautiful small quilt donated to the Circle by Elsa Newhouse. The Circle voted \$175 to sponsor a volunteer to the Seacoast Mission trip. On July 11, the Circle sponsored the 20th Annual Thrift Shop Fashion Show coordinated again this year by Sue Clout. Around 20 Thrift Shop outfits were modeled and there were about 50 people who attended. An Ice Cream Social followed the 7:00pm show. The August 5 Pie Sale was a great success again this year. Over 50 pies were donated. There was no business meeting in August, however, on August 8, our usual meeting day, the group traveled to visit Donna Fowlie at her home in Newry. Donna served a delicious lunch, and fellowship was enjoyed by all. Our next project will be the September 9 Harvest Supper, and our next regular meeting is scheduled for September 12 at 10:00am. There are no membership requirements for Ladies Circle so all are welcome to join the group as schedules allow. Contacts: Carolyn Carter 928-2080, cecarter1994@gmail.com or Linda Libby 925-3661, lindalibby12345@outlook.com

Lovell Girl Scouts

Girl Scouts have not held regular meetings during the summer, however, Troop 3149 had a great time camping at Scelkit Girl Scout site in Kittery in June. Lovell troops will be participating in the August 26 Outdoor Skills Day at Fryeburg Fairgrounds. Daisy Troop 146 and Cadette/Brownie Troop 58 are both in need of another leader for fall. A two-part on-line training is available, and a background check is required. Lovell Girl Scout troops are accepting girl registrations for the upcoming year. For information, contact: Linda Libby, 925-3661, or lindalibby12345@outlook.com

COMMITTEE NEWS

TRUSTEES The Lovell UCC Board of Trustees met on Monday, July 10, 7:00pm, in person and with ZOOM thanks to Kathy Dunham. The July 10 meeting agenda included financial reports, investment reports (showing some improvement), old business and new business items. Projects on the "to do" list include replacing the heating register in the left bathroom, clearing brush on the leach field, working on the vestry sound issue and replacing the door stop and post coverings on the Vestry entryway. The elevator key problem has been solved and closet door fixed. The board also continues to update The Lovell UCC Policies and Procedures Book. There was no Trustee meeting in August. The next regular meeting is scheduled for September 11th.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION The CE Board provided a scholarship for a student to attend the Maine Seacoast Mission Trip. Bible Adventures will start again in October with two Sundays per month offering classes for children of all ages. The Evening Bible Study is moving to the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of each month. A tentative date of October 29th has been set for another great Halloween Drive-up event. Watch for more information next month.

MISSIONS We continue to support our local food pantries with donation boxes available in the church vestry.



DRIVE-UP LUNCH

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

**LOVELL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
1174 MAIN ST., LOVELL, MAINE**

10:00-1:00 (or until we sell out!)

\$5 PER PERSON

**Cheeseburger, chips and
a whoopie pie**

Just drop by or call Joyce at

928-3132 to reserve your meal

**All proceeds from this lunch will be
donated to the Sunshine Backpack
Food Program benefiting the children
of MSAD #72 with supplemental
food on non-school days.**

Thank you for your support!

We voted to send out our annual donations early this year so the programs benefiting from it can use the money sooner. A group of five people went on the Maine Seacoast Mission Trip in August. Watch for more information about our second annual Fall Bake Sale and plans for this year's Christmas baskets.

CABINET Monthly Cabinet reports are available upon request. Please email Mary Heroux, Clerk at meheroux@gmail.com.

ONGOING PROGRAMS

CHILDREN

Bible Adventure classes for children in grades K-6 are offered twice per month, October-May. Call the church office for more information.

EVENING BIBLE STUDY

This group meets on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of each month (Sept-May). 6:30-9:00 pm. FMI contact Vicki at 925-1444.

MUSIC-CHOIR

Choir rehearsals are held Sunday mornings at 9:30 am followed by the choir's participation in worship.

MUSIC-HANDBELLS

Handbells rehearse

Wednesdays from 9:30-10:30 am. Bell Ringers wanted! Call the church FMI 925-1321.

LADIES CIRCLE

This group meets on the second Tuesday of each month for a business meeting and throughout the year for special programs and events. All ladies are welcome to come as their schedule permits. FMI contact Linda Libby at 925-3661 or Carolyn Carter at 928-2080.

Pastor's office hours:

Monday 9:00-1:00

Wednesday 9:00-1:00

Email: pastor@lovellucc.org

Call or text (260)849-1512

Office Administrator's hours:

Monday 9:00-2:00

Wednesday 9:00-2:00

Office 925-1321

LUCC Thrift Shop

OPEN WEDNESDAYS & SATURDAYS

10:00-2:00

We continue to receive LOTS of great merchandise. Stop by and see! \$2/Bag sale the last Wednesday and Saturday of each month. Follow us on Facebook for additional sales.

Thrift Shop Lovell United Church of Christ

STAY IN TOUCH



Follow us on Facebook

VISIT US ONLINE

www.lovellucc.org

Email:

info@lovellucc.org

COME SEE US

1174 Main St.

PO Box 232

Lovell, ME 04051

CALL US

(207)925-1321 (office)

Lovell United Church of Christ

Sunday Worship 10:30 am

www.lovellucc.org

Rev. Neil H. Wilson, Pastor

Dan Moore, Director of Music

Heather Sawin, Office Administrator

The Circuit Rider submission deadline for October is **September 17th**.

In the Community:

The Helen Coe Trust Fund has funds available upon request for the 2023 year available to nonprofit organizations serving the residents of Lovell, ME. Interested non-profit organizations should draft a letter of request for specific purpose, the amount of money needed, if the said organization has looked at other places/avenues for funds, an indication about how many Lovell residents are serviced, and how the amount of money requested will benefit the Town of Lovell residents. Please include a copy of the current operating budget including anticipated expenditures and revenues for the current operating or upcoming year. The letter of intent has a deadline date of November 17, 2023 and can be sent to Helen Coe Trust PO Box 185, Center Lovell, 04016.



Take-Out Harvest Supper

**Lovell United Church of Christ
1174 Main St.
Lovell, Maine**

Saturday, September 9th

5:00-6:30 pm (or until we run out!)

\$15 per person

**Please PRE-ORDER by calling Elsa
at 928-3100**

Corned beef, potatoes, carrots, cabbage,
turnip, bread and apple or pumpkin pie

All proceeds benefit the work of the
Lovell United Church of Christ

